

SN 09/782,324  
Docket No. S-94,752  
In Response to Office Action dated March 25, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Please cancel claims 1-27.~~

Please add the following claims:

28. A method for separating different sized biological materials to increase throughput of sampling comprising:
  - a. centrifuging said biological materials in a container;
  - b. inserting a separation barrier into said container to separate biological materials with a size small enough to pass through said separation barrier from biological materials with a size too large to pass through said separation barrier ;
  - c. withdrawing a portion of said biological materials from only one side of said separation barrier.
29. The method of claim 28 wherein said separation barrier is inserted into said container and into a supernatant to a level above aggregated biological materials that will prevent movement of said aggregate biological materials through said separation barrier when a sample of said supernatant is withdraw from the side of said separation barrier opposite from said aggregate biological materials.
30. The method of claim 28 wherein said container is a microtiter plate have one or more sample wells and said separation barrier is a plate having one or more depending sleeves that conform to the inside of said sample wells.
31. The method of claim 29 wherein said supernatant includes plasmid DNA therein.
32. The method of claim 28 further comprising:
  - d. withdrawing said separation barrier from said container;
  - e. washing said separation barrier; and
  - f. re-using said separation barrier.
33. A method for separation of plasmid DNA comprising:
  - a. growing a culture of plasmid DNA;
  - b. lysing cells from said culture to obtain a lysate;
  - c. centrifuging a container of said lysate to obtain a first layer of supernatant and a second layer of aggregate biological materials in said container;

ATTACHMENT A

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

28. A method for separating different sized biological materials to increase throughput of sampling comprising:
  - a. centrifuging said biological materials in a container;
  - b. inserting a separation barrier into said container to separate biological materials with a size small enough to pass through said separation barrier from biological materials with a size too large to pass through said separation barrier ;
  - c. withdrawing a portion of said biological materials from only one side of said separation barrier.
29. The method of claim 28 wherein said separation barrier is inserted into said container and into a supernatant to a level above aggregated biological materials that will prevent movement of said aggregate biological materials through said separation barrier when a sample of said supernatant is withdraw from the side of said separation barrier opposite from said aggregate biological materials
30. The method of claim 28 wherein said container is a microtiter plate have one or more sample wells and said separation barrier is a plate having one or more depending sleeves that conform to the inside of said sample wells.
31. The method of claim 29 wherein said supernatant includes plasmid DNA therein.
32. The method of claim 28 further comprising:
  - d. withdrawing said separation barrier from said container;
  - e. washing said separation barrier; and
  - f. re-using said separation barrier.
33. A method for separation of plasmid DNA comprising:
  - a. growing a culture of plasmid DNA;
  - b. lysing cells from said culture to obtain a lysate;

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- c. centrifuging a container of said lysate to obtain a first layer of supernatant and a second layer of aggregate biological materials in said container;
- d. separating said first layer of supernatant from said second layer of aggregate biological materials by inserting a separation barrier into said container to a level above said second layer and below a major portion of said supernatant that will prevent movement of said aggregate biological materials through said separation barrier into said major portion of said supernatant;
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- e. withdrawing said major portion of said supernatant from above said separation barrier; and
- f. removing said plasmid DNA from said withdrawn portion of said supernatant.
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